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Notice to our readers

The Jordan Times notifies its readers that it will publish Wednesday the proceedings of an open discussion with Prof. Malcolm Rooper Kerr of the Department of Political Science at the University of California. Prof. Kerr is currently on a Middle East tour. The discussion is of particular significance as Prof. Kerr was a member of the Middle East study group organised by the Brookings Institution to recommend ways of achieving a peace settlement in the region. The study group's report released a year ago is said to be behind many of President Carter's ideas on the Arab-Israeli conflict. A number of Jordanian intellectuals and staff members of the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i participated in the discussion.

Vance: U.S. plans to suggest solution for Mideast dispute

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said today the United States plans later this year to suggest to Israel and the Arab states ways to settle the Middle East dispute.

At the same time, it would explain why it believed the U.S. "suggestions" to be fair and equitable.

But Mr. Vance hedged on whether these proposals would amount to a comprehensive U.S. plan for a Middle East settlement — which Israel opposes — and stressed that the ultimate decisions had to be taken by the parties to the dispute.

Mr. Vance said at a press conference here the United States still believed it was very important to reconvene the 1973 Geneva conference on the Middle East by this autumn, but it was essential that there be adequate preparation.

Following President Carter's meetings with Middle East leaders which conclude this mon-

th and the Israeli general elections on May 17, Mr. Vance expects to have another round of talks with Israeli leaders and then tour the Middle East again for further consultations. Asked if the United States was proposing a comprehensive peace plan, Mr. Vance said: "Whether you want to call it a comprehensive plan or not is a question that gets into semantics. We will have suggestions on all the core issues. The United States has defined the core issues as the natu-

re of the future peace, the defining of borders and the Palestinian question.

He said the first thing the United States would do was "to try and put before the various parties the logic behind the position, why it appears to be fair, and to have a dialogue with each of the individual countries with respect to whatever suggestions we may have... but again I stress that ultimately the decision for a settlement has to be made by the parties."

U.S. lifts veto on Vietnam's membership of the United Nations

PARIS, May 4 (R). — The United States today lifted its veto on Vietnam's admission to the United Nations and moved closer to establishing diplomatic and trade relations with Hanoi. The Americans announced their decision to drop long-standing objections to Hanoi's U.N. membership at the end of the first round of new talks here to normalise relations with their former enemy.

But in Washington Secretary of State Cyrus Vance emphasised that the U.S. would not pay war reparations demanded by Hanoi.

The spokesman for the U.S. delegations at the Paris talks, Morton Smith, said the Carter administration believed in the universality of U.N. membership and explained that the new U.S.-Vietnamese negotiations seemed the best place to announce Washington's decision.

The American veto on Vietnamese membership was a major obstacle to negotiations resuming here and its removal is expected to speed up the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Both the American and Vietnamese chief delegates indicated that the talks, which began yesterday, had made a good start.

Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Hien said the two sides had taken a step towards normalisation of diplomatic and trade ties, while U.S. negotia-

tor Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs, said: "We made some progress."

Mr. Hien listed the three main issues to be settled in the talks, which are now adjourned for two weeks, as:

— U.S. servicemen missing in action in the Vietnam war, — The U.S. contribution to heal Vietnam's war wounds and help to rebuild its economy, — Normalisation of diplomatic and trade relations.

"These three problems are linked and we hope to be able to settle them together," the Vietnamese minister said.

Mr. Hien said Vietnam is seeking a total of \$4.75 billion from the United States. He said \$3.25 billion of this had been promised by President Nixon in a letter to Hanoi leader Pham Van Dong shortly after the Vietnam peace agreement was signed in Paris in January, 1973.

The remaining \$1.5 billion is made up of "concessional aid" and assets of the former Saigon government held by the Americans.

There were conflicting statements about whether the sensitive Nixon letter had been raised during the current talks. Mr. Hien said the Americans had acknowledged its existence, but the U.S. delegation spokesman said the matter was not raised.

In Washington, Mr. Vance told a press conference he thought reparations were a precondition by Hanoi for establishing fully normal relations with Vietnam.

Asked if reparations had been requested outright, Mr. Vance said: "The Vietnamese talked about their view about the need for assistance to heal the wounds of war."

"Essentially that is a request for reparations and we will not pay."

Ethiopia's Haile-Mariam confers with Kremlin leaders

MOSCOW, May 4 (R). — Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile-Mariam, whose country last month severed a 20-year-old military alliance with the United States, today met Kremlin leaders to explore prospects for closer ties with the Soviet Union.

After arriving here on his first official visit to Moscow, Lt.-Col. Mengistu opened talks in the Kremlin with President Nikolai Podgorny and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

Observers said they were likely to be discussing what Moscow can do to make up the deficit caused by the ending of American arms supplies to Ethiopia.

Last month Ethiopia's military leaders closed down the American military mission in Addis Ababa following reports in the Western press that Soviet-made tanks and other arms had been delivered to Ethiopia from Aden.

President Carter later stopped all arms deliveries to Ethiopia. The move affected nearly \$100 million worth of previously approved supplies, including F-5E fighter planes and M-60 tanks.

Col. Mengistu will spend between three and five days here, an Ethiopian spokesman said.



UNDER CURFEW — Two Israeli soldiers, carrying batons, marching down a street in Nablus, major city the occupied West Bank, Wednesday, after curfew was imposed. A mosque can be seen in the background.

Bhutto receives PNA formula to end crisis

ISLAMABAD, May 4 (R). — Pakistan's detained opposition leaders have submitted their formula to Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto for resolving the country's two-month-old political crisis, an opposition spokesman said today.

The next move is now up to Mr. Bhutto, the spokesman of the nine-party Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) told Reuters.

The proposals were in a letter sent to Mr. Bhutto last night.

The spokesman refused to give details of the opposition demands. But well-informed sources said the PNA was still demanding that Mr. Bhutto resign and agree to hold fresh general elections. It alleges that elections two months ago were rigged.

Since the PNA recently indicated all its demands were negotiable, the formal opposition proposals are expected to serve as a basis for starting talks with Mr. Bhutto in the near future.

The letter containing the proposals was sent by PNA President Maulana Mufi Mahmud, who was moved from a detention centre near here over the weekend to Rawalpindi's military hospital.

The PNA spokesman said the opposition would not call off its anti-government agitation until the issue was resolved.

As hopes rose that a dialogue would soon begin, Libyan Jamahiriyah Foreign Minister Ali Trieki arrived here today with a special message for Mr. Bhutto and also had a meeting with Maulana Mufi Mahmud.

The minister told reporters before leaving after an eight-hour stopover that he had not come as a mediator.

But he said the Libyan Jamahiriyah was concerned at what was happening in Pakistan and that the United States had been intervening in the political agitation.

The Libyan is the third Arab envoy to have talks with the opposition in the last week. The first was the Saudi Arabian ambassador in Pakistan, followed by visiting United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Ahmed Khalifa Al Suweidi.

According to PNA sources, the Saudi and UAE emissaries had sought to persuade the opposition leaders to enter into a dialogue with Mr. Bhutto and call off their agitation.

Violent demonstrations sweep 4 West Bank towns

TEL AVIV, May 4 (AFP). — Israeli soldiers used tear gas to disperse high-school students who demonstrated violently in four towns in the occupied West Bank today following the fatal shootings of an Arab woman and a youth yesterday.

S. Arabia pays for Egypt's arms purchases

CAIRO, May 4 (R). — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat today disclosed that Saudi Arabia is paying for Egypt's arms purchases, but said the United States had postponed a decision on selling Egypt arms.

President Sadat told naval officers after watching an exercise in Alexandria: "I must express my gratitude to Saudi Arabia which provided you with aid to help equip the army with modern technology."

The Egyptian leader, whose speech was reported by the official Middle East News Agency (MENA), said the aid was in addition to support Saudi Arabia provides for Egypt's troubled economy.

President Sadat said he had asked the United States for arms during his visit there last month. "The United States did not reject my request and I did not insist on getting the arms I wanted. But it was agreed to put it off for some time," he said.

Carter pushes energy plan

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — President Carter again called for approval of his energy conservation programme today, saying it was perhaps the most important problem that members of the U.S. Congress would face in their lifetimes.

He told members of the House of Representatives Select Committee on Energy that his programme had met almost universal praise in Western Europe and would be a matter of intense interest at the seven-nation summit opening in London on Saturday.

Mr. Carter, who will leave for London tomorrow, said industrialised countries must find a common approach to the problem of soaring oil costs and the need to conserve energy.

He told members of the congressional group they should join him in accepting the adverse political consequences that were bound to result from his call to the American people to accept sacrifices.

The youths set up roadblocks and hurled stones at soldiers and border police units when they arrived at the scene of the protests in Nablus, Ramallah and Jenin.

About 60 arrests were made in Nablus, where a curfew was imposed, and in Jenin and another dozen in Ramallah.

Protests were also staged in Qalandia, between Ramallah and occupied Jerusalem. Police and army vehicles were stoned and schools, local shops and businesses closed in the four towns as an expression of protest against the shootings.

Tension in the West Bank has been high since a soldier whose car was being stoned shot to death a boy, 16, yesterday in Qabatiya, a small town between Nablus and Je-

nin. In a subsequent clash at the boys funeral, a woman, 55, was shot to death by a soldier. Israeli troops later cordoned off the town of Qabatiya to prevent sympathisers from gathering there for the funeral of the woman.

Israel Radio reported that the mayors of Jenin and Nablus had sent messages to Israeli Defence Minister Shimon Peres warning that nobody could stop the demonstrations.

Arabs have been angry over a government announcement of plans for a new Israeli settlement near Nablus.

Soldiers who opened fire have been arrested pending an investigation. Six soldiers were injured by stones in yesterday's fighting, and two other Arabs were wounded.

Uganda to execute 37 alleged invaders

LONDON, May 4 (R). — Uganda is to execute captured members of what it describes as an "advance party" for an invasion from Tanzania, Radio Uganda reported today.

The radio reported the capture of the 37-strong group, which it said was made up of Tanzanians and Ugandan exiles.

Today's broadcast, monitored here, said they would be executed by a firing squad.

The radio said yesterday that the group was captured on Monday night and added that Ugandan troops were prepared for a possible invasion.

It quoted a military spokesman as saying: "It has come to the knowledge of the military authorities and the public around the border that there is a movement of Tanzanian troops backing guerrillas mo-

ving towards Uganda in the south."

Today's broadcast said Tanzania had denied knowledge of an invasion.

But it said that according to a spokesman of the Ugandan Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, evidence provided by the captured group "clearly reveals that Tanzania cannot deny its full knowledge of these people and their ill-motivated intentions."

The radio has reported that the Ugandan exiles in the group fled to Tanzania after an abortive invasion of Uganda in 1972.

On that occasion a small force backed ex-President Milton Obote was crushed by Ugandan forces. Ugandan planes also hit at the Tanzanian town of Mwanza, on the southern shore of Lake Victoria.

1,000 students reported executed in Ethiopia

PARIS, May 4 (AFP). — Ethiopian troops and local commune officials may have "executed" up to 1,000 students in two days of killings in Addis Ababa last weekend, reliable sources said today.

Young people accused of distributing leaflets attacking the military government's policies were reportedly rounded up and machine-gunned to death in groups.

Students who broke free were later hunted down in nearby houses and shot as they tried to escape, the sources said.

Hundreds of bodies of young people were said to have been brought into city hospitals after the killings which took place between sunset on Friday and Saturday night.

By Sunday Addis Ababa had been cleared of all traces of the massacre, the sources reported.

Observers recalled that head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam made no reference to the "executions" when in his May Day speech he affirmed his government's determination to crush "reactionary aggression."

Ethiopia's military rulers have said they intend to "liquidate" secessionists in the troubled northern province of Eritrea. They now seem set on wiping out anyone considered as an internal enemy of the revolution, observers say.

Reports of the latest blood-letting are fragmentary since the last three representatives of the Western press, Agence France-Presse's Mr. Laurent Chénard, Mr. Jeremy Toye of Reuters, and Mr. David Ottaway (Washington Post) were expelled on April 27.

Their departure coincided with a wider crackdown on Western interests in Ethiopia. On April 23 all American personnel except embassy staff were given four days to leave the country. The order affected 117 Americans, 45 working in Asmara, the Eritrean capital, 46 with the Military Assistance and Advisory Group (MAAG), six with U.S. Information Services (USIS) and 20, of whom 17 were doctors, with a U.S. navy medical research group.

At the same time the consulates or honorary consulates of the U.S., Sudan, Italy, Britain, France and Belgium in Eritrea were closed on orders from Addis Ababa.

Many observers see the moves as intended to isolate Eritrea and remove all foreign witnesses to events which may now be under way there.

The mood of tension throughout the country has not prevented Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the ruling "Derg" or Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), from leaving it on a trip to Moscow, where he arrived earlier today, observers noted.

Survey shows informed Americans prefer "even-handed" approach to Middle East

NEW YORK, May 4 (J.T.). — Americans interested in foreign affairs overwhelmingly reject the idea of a "tilt" (or one sided approach) toward either the Arab or Israeli side in the Middle East dispute, and want the United States to pursue an "evenly balanced" approach, according to a Foreign Policy Association survey.

An analysis of 1,724 'opinion ballots' filed by participants in the association's discussion programme "Great Decisions '77" during February and March, showed that Americans also:

— "Want the U.S. to play an active part in the search for peace in the Middle East and reject a U.S. policy of non-involvement."

— "Favour the so-called Brookings Institution (a Washington-based study group) peace formula under which each party would respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the others; Israel would withdraw by stages to the pre-1967 borders with only such modifications as are mutually accepted; and the whole solution would be backed by international guarantees."

— "Strongly oppose the use of force by the U.S. or other outside powers to 'impose' a settlement."

Tabulation of the opinion ballots is made by Columbia University.

The Foreign Policy Association is a non-profit non-partisan organisation set up in 1918, and in its programme studies encourages Americans in local organisations to discuss foreign policy issues.

Danish premier

M.E. solution must be found

TEL AVIV, May 4 (R). — Danish Prime Minister Anker Jorgensen, who is visiting Israel, said today that a solution must be found to enable the Palestinian people to express their identity.

"We have to accept that there is a Palestinian people and they must also have the right to express their identity," he told a press conference.

Asked why the Palestine Liberation Organisation had no office in Copenhagen as it does in a number of other countries, the prime minister said: "Denmark is a free country and all organisations can open offices except those that advocate violence."

Mr. Jorgensen said he had a long talk today with Foreign Minister Viggo Alton and will confer tomorrow with acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Perez hints oil prices will not rise this year

VIENNA, May 4 (R). — President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela hinted today that world crude oil prices would not be increased this year.

The president, speaking to reporters at the end of a brief visit to Austria, said, however, he could not foresee whether a common price for oil within the Organisation of Oil Producing Countries (OPEC) would be reached at a coming OPEC meeting in Stockholm.

Senior Perez flew here from Baghdad after a tour of six Arab oil-producing countries.

Suarez stands for elections

MADRID, May 4 (R). — Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez told the Spanish people last night that he would stand as an independent candidate in general elections next month in order to secure a victory for moderation.

He declared that he would ally himself with a coalition of independent centrists in Spain's first democratic elections for more than 40 years.

Senior Suarez did not identify the coalition he supported, but his remark was taken as a clear reference to an electoral alliance of 15 parties announced earlier today in an attempt to forestall a rightwing victory in the June 15 elections.

Senior Suarez, who was appointed directly by King Juan Carlos, would have remained premier whether or not he stood for parliament.

But his announcement tonight, in a 33-minute speech broadcast on radio and television, was seen as a commitment to the democratic processes. He pledged to build in Spain.

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NEWS FOCUS

Thousands cross Uganda's borders in escape from Amin's reign of terror

Thousands of Ugandans -- professional men, civil servants, politicians, teachers, army officers -- are fleeing from President Amin's reign of terror. Most are crossing the border into Kenya, where they are received sympathetically. Gemini News Service's Nairobi correspondent has met many of the refugees. He reports that they are frightened to say too much about conditions at home because they fear for families left behind.

By John Worrall

NAIROBI (Gemini) — The oppressed middle classes of Uganda see neighbouring Kenya and Tanzania as promised lands. Thousands are now escaping across the borders, from President Idi Amin's reign of terror.

They are adding their numbers to the million refugees in Africa -- a rough United Nations figure -- who have fled their countries because they belong to the wrong tribe, the wrong religion and the wrong party. There is no figure available of the numbers who have fled from Uganda since Mr. Amin came to power in 1971 -- just as there is no estimate of the Ugandans who have been killed in the various pogroms against the Baganda, the Acholis, the Langis and Christian dissenters against the regime.

Throughout the six years of his rule Mr. Amin has been haunted by the belief that one day, Mr. Milton Obote, the president he overthrew in a military coup, will stage a comeback.

Tens of thousands left Uganda after the 1971 coup. It is known that thousands were massacred.

It is a tragic exodus of good Ugandans, professional men, civil servants, politicians, teachers, soldiers. It is a brain drain that no African country can afford, and is one of the main reasons why the economic situation in Uganda is so chaotic.

Since Mr. Amin discovered arms caches in Uganda during the sixth anniversary of his coup his furious and bloody reprisals have set another flood of refugees on the move. Arms were found in the homelands of the Acholi and Langi tribes, many of whom are Christians, and his anger has concentrated on them.

Bishops, priests, soldiers, civil servants belonging to these tribes have been singled out for elimination carried out by Mr. Amin's fearsome State Research Bureau.

An alarm in the Anglican Church was set off by the death, while under arrest, of the Anglican Archbishop of Uganda, Dr. Jafari Lwum, an Acholi. He is said to have died in a car crash, but many refugees insist he was shot in cold blood by Mr. Amin himself.

The alarm has reached world proportions in the churches. Bishops and clergymen have joined the flow of refugees into Kenya. Of the 19 Anglican bishops in Uganda, there are only 12 left. The church in Kenya has taken them into its bosom.

Recently Mr. Amin's officer corps, many of them Acholis or Langis, have been deserting in large numbers since the pogrom began -- one of its centres was the army. Majors and captains have been abandoning their posts, pay and pensions, and in many cases their families to escape into Kenya.

It is estimated that about 10,000 Uganda refugees are present in Kenya, where they have been received sympathetically.

Some go for help to religious bodies such as the All-Africa Conference of Churches, others to the Kenya refugee authorities, and usually they finish up at the U.N. High Commission for Refugees office, which has funds available for their food and lodging.

But many go quietly to earth, living with relatives and friends. There are strong tribal links between Kenya and Uganda. A refugee centre or camp may have to be established soon if the influx gets out of hand.

Others flee into Tanzania and there is a big exile community centred around Mr. Milton Obote, who is living in asylum in Dar Es Salaam.

In most cases refugees don't talk much. There is evidence of Mr. Amin's intelligence men mingling with the refugees and many Ugandans are worried about harassment of their families and relatives if anti-Amin talk is reported back to Kampala.

I recently spent a day at the Kenya-Uganda border town of Busia, just south of the Equator, which is one of the main points used by refugees

when they cross into Kenya. Oddly enough, they have no trouble with immigration and customs men on either side. Refugees in Busia are accepted as a fact of life. One local Kenya policeman told me: "We don't mind Ugandans here at all -- they are all our brothers."

The town, a busy market area, actually spreads over the border and big business is done with Uganda coffee smuggled across for sale in Kenya.

Typical of many young intellectuals in flight from Mr. Amin was a young Ugandan teacher I talked to while waiting to report to the Busia District Commissioner. Kenyans, with their remarkable instinct for law and order, try to keep the refugee influx under strict control.

The teacher told me: "I worked in a school in Kampala but my cousin had just been arrested for plotting against Amin. We are Acholis and thousands of our tribe have been arrested and many tortured and killed."

"One day when I was absent from school my headmaster told me armed troops had been looking for me and were coming back the next day. It

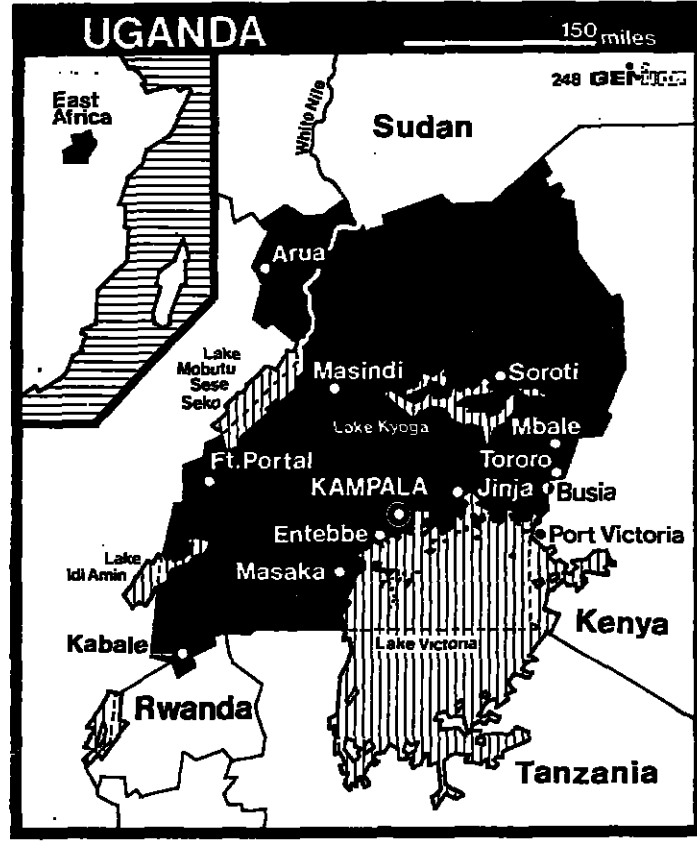
was lucky I was out or I might be in prison myself now, or dead. I decided it was best to clear out, so I left my job and my home and headed for Kenya. I got a lift part of the way and walked the rest. I have not eaten for three days."

He was a young, scholarly-looking man in spectacles, carrying one small bag, and he was sweating much more than a hot day in Africa a few miles from the Equator would warrant. "Look at me, I can't stop sweating with fear, but it is all over now except that I won't be able to go back home probably for years."

Lake Victoria, the largest lake in Africa, is also a border area and many refugees escape by boat to the little Kenya fishing village of Port Victoria. A fisherman told me there that one group arrived in a boat the other day having escaped from Mr. Amin's lake police firing automatic rifles at them. "Another party took the precaution of driving holes in a police boat before they left the Uganda shore," said the fisherman.

There are strong signs of a resistance group being formed in Kenya, but it is by no means certain it will have the blessing of the Kenya government. President Kenyatta and his ministers are anti-Amin to a man, but they do not want to provoke reprisals from Uganda. The Kenyans have a healthy respect for Mr. Amin's Russian MIG's.

There has been a positive reaction here to the call in New York by former Uganda Attorney General, Godfrey Binaisa, who has started an organisation called "The Association of Free Ugandans." and there are signs that a branch might be formed here.



Third Circle Phantasmic By Omar Jawad

New road to peace.....

I have just made a major discovery of monumental importance, and I would like to share it with my readers.

I have been particularly dismayed recently about the continued state of conflict between the Israelis and the Arabs, and I resolved last week that I would ponder the matter diligently until I discovered what we were doing wrong that kept peace such a distant goal. I delved into history, scanned the contemporary landscape, consulted with some particularly astute observers of the Middle East scene, and finally came up with the realisation that the harder we try to bring about peace the more distant peace becomes, and the more violent becomes the status quo of rivalries and conflicts throughout the Middle East.

Finally I realised the great dilemma: The more we strive for peace, the more we end up with conflict. If this is the case, which it seems to be, then it must also be the case that if we were to reverse our efforts perhaps we could also reverse the results. In other words, and this is my major discovery, to achieve peace we need to strive for more conflict.

The idea seems ridiculous, I know, but think about it for a few moments, and wonder along with me whether history has not suggested that our quest for peace only brings us more violent conflicts? Should we not therefore expect that the quest for war could similarly leave us with peace? I think this may be the case, and I can imagine a few years from now a news report that reads something like this:.....

NICOSIA, October 24 (Agencies) — First fights and broken noses were the order of the day here today as representatives of the 35 member states of the Arab League gathered to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Arab League.

The fighting broke out as a spontaneous expression of joy when the secretary general of the Arab League read out his annual report to the organisation, in which he announced that the Arab states could look forward to real peace next year in view of the fact that major conflicts were in progress in every part of the Arab World. He added that this was the result of intensive contacts at a high political level of set the stage for serious peace talks with Israel, due to reconvene in Geneva this winter.

The secretary general reported that no less than five wars were raging in which Arabs were fighting each other and that three other disputes could be classified as being on the verge of turning into armed conflicts. He said that this was proof of the widespread determination in the Arab World to maintain a state of turmoil and high preparedness as a pre-

requisite for a negotiated settlement with Israel.

The secretary general added that the coming stage in the conflict would be "decisive" and that it was crucial that inter-Arab bloodshed be maintained at a high level in order for the world to realise that we are serious about waging war.

Turning to some administrative matters, he said that the Arab League hoped to add no less than seven new members this year to bring the league's membership to over 40, which would be required in order for the Arab League to qualify for group-chapter status on airplane flights when the member states hold their meetings in Nicosia.

He also said that he hoped the headquarters of the organisation could return to Cairo as soon as the league's permanent headquarters there were rebuilt. The building that houses the Cairo headquarters of the league was burned down three years ago in a spontaneous display of Arab unity when it was announced that the death toll in the Lebanese war had topped the 100,000 mark.

The secretary general revealed that the new member states would be initiated formally as soon as they proved themselves capable of withstanding the rigours of membership in the Arab League. Representatives of the new member states at the meeting here today told the gathering that they expected to be ready to join the league as soon as they trained some of their citizens in the arts of propaganda warfare, subversion and the use of sophisticated new weapons.

One delegate of the new member states complained that his country could not meet one of the Arab League's entrance requirements, which is that any new member shall have participated within the last decade in at least three unsuccessful attempts at unity with at least two other Arab countries. He asked special permission that his country be granted immediate observer status because of its geographical situation as a nation that shares common borders with no less than seven Arab states, thus putting it in a position to start several border conflicts at once.

The fighting today broke out when the secretary general asked the assembled delegates to demonstrate their seriousness in wishing to continue the Arab League dialogue with the EEC states. Those talks with the EEC have been stalled for the past few months because the European representatives are reportedly afraid to take part in any more talks after the last session in Paris, where all the Arab delegates simultaneously fired machineguns into the air to express their joy at the fruitful progress of the discussions.....

Chinese general makes comeback

By Georges Bianchi

PEKING, May 4 (AFP). — A new commander of the Nanking Military Region, one of the biggest in China, was appointed recently, an informed source said here yesterday.

He is Gen. Nieh Feng-chih, who made a comeback after his dismissal during the Cultural Revolution and was up to now deputy commander of Nanking Military Region, which encompasses Jiangsu Province, Shanghai, Chekiang and Kiangsi.

Gen. Nieh replaced Gen. Ting Sheng, the former commander of Canton Military Region who had swapped positions with Politburo member Gen. Hsu Shih-yu.

Chinese military leaders who were asked recently about the change of command in Nanking said Gen. Ting Sheng was not well.

Various rumours went the rounds in Peking a few months back concerning the fate of Gen. Ting Sheng, who has not appeared on the political scene since the arrest last October of the "gang of four" radical leaders headed by Mao Tse-tung's widow.

His "illness" appears to be of the same nature as that which was used by Chinese officials to explain the absence of people who were fired following the arrest of the four on political grounds.

The attitude of Gen. Ting Sheng whose region included Shanghai, former stronghold of the "gang of four", at the time when the plot by Mao's widow was revealed may have been behind his disgrace, according to observers in Peking.

Gen. Nieh, his successor, is a veteran of the Long March. He was born in 1917 in the central Province of Shansi, also the birthplace of Chairman Huo Kuo-feng.

He spent most of his career in aviation and held the post of Nanking region air force commander from 1965 to 1968 when he came under attack by the Red Guards and was dismissed.

He made his comeback on June 14, 1975, as deputy commander of the Nanking Military Region and also regained his old post.

The name of Gen. Nieh appeared on long lists of leading participants in the May

Day celebrations held throughout the country. These lists, studied with interest by China experts due to the fact that they often reveal changes in the central or provincial leadership organs, brought few revelations on this occasion.

Observers noted however the official return to favour of a figure who had been described as the "black hand" of Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping at the Academy of Science during the campaign against the former vice premier in 1976. He is Mr. Mu Yao-pang, one of the academy's top leaders.

He had been disgraced during the Cultural Revolution in 1967 as a follower of former President Liu Shao-chi and was rehabilitated in 1975. The following year he was to be dismissed again for supporting Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping under the influence of the "Gang of Four" so-called radical leaders.

Big-character posters that appeared in January for the anniversary of the death of Mr. Chou En-lai in Peking's Tien An Men Square said he had been brought back, but this was the first time his name was mentioned in the official press.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two Jordanian newspapers Wednesday took up the same burning question of how to achieve peace in the Middle East.

AL DUSTOUR: Referring to His Majesty King Hussein's current visit to the United States and his discussions with President Carter and his top officials, Al Dustour says that King Hussein's explanation of the Arab viewpoint was able to draw the attention of the United States to such an extent that made it look at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from a more obtuse angle than the traditional angle from which the previous American administrations used to look at it.

Furthermore, the paper adds, the question of the Palestinian representation at the Geneva conference has emerged as a vital topic for the Americans, worthy of reflection and discussion.

This has emerged despite the accumulated sensitivity worked up by Israel over the years to prevent Washington from even thinking of the representation

of the Palestinians at Geneva. "Hence the nervousness and irritation shown by the Israeli newspapers when discussing King Hussein's visit to the United States," Al Dustour adds.

The Israelis, in general, do not hide their foreboding of the possibility that the U.S. may change its supporting stand to Israel, the paper points out.

AL RAT says that in spite of President Carter's clear position towards the Middle East crisis, he is still hesitant in propping up this "clearness" by publicly declaring his determination to do so. The paper says that each time President Carter is pressed on his hope of achieving peace in the area, he immediately corrects himself by saying that one should not be over-optimistic, and that the U.S. will not impose a solution.

It is clear that the president wants to draw up a new kind of relation in the area that does not conflict with the Arab stand. But he almost always finds himself confronted by the Israeli intransigence here, and by the Zionist influence there, the paper says.

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Channel 3 & 6	8:20 Variety programme	10:15 Feature film
6:00 Quran		
6:05 Children's programme		
6:30 English by television		
12:00 Brandy lunch		
8:00 News in Arabic	Channel 6	
	7:30 News in Hebrew	
	7:45 Varieties	
	8:30 Are you being served?	
	9:10 Six million dollar man	
7:30 Science and life	10:00 News in English	
8:30 Quiz programme	10:15 Crown Court	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Breakfast show	16:00 Old favourites
7:30 News	16:30 Easy Listening
7:45 News reports	17:00 Something to say
8:00 Sign off	17:30 Pop session
12:00 Pop session	18:00 News summary
13:00 News summary	18:05 Pop session
13:05 Pop session	18:30 Omar bin Al Khattab
14:00 News	19:00 News
14:10 Radio magazine	19:10 News reports
14:30 Play of the week	19:30 Sign off
15:00 Concert hour	

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Abdul Razzak Thabit (3888)	Saleh:
Mustapha Hijawi	Tada:
Zarga:	Al Hussein Youth City
Mustapha Fayyad (83031)	(63273)
Pharmacies:	Rainbow (37249)
Amman:	Talal (26021)
Salam (26730)	Abi (21127)
Fattaleh (37140)	

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	Departures:
6:00 Bangkok, Bahrain	6:00 Damascus, Munich, Fr.
7:00 Kuwait	06:30 Beirut (Lufthansa)
7:15 Damascus (SAA)	7:45 Agaba (SAA)
7:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	8:00 Beirut
7:45 London	8:30 Beirut (MEA)
7:55 Cairo (EA)	8:45 Beirut (EA)
8:30 Doha, Baghdad	9:00 Paris
8:40 Agaba (SAA)	10:10 Damascus (SAA)
10:10 Beirut	11:30 Rome, Brussels
11:45 Kuwait (KAC)	12:00 Cairo
12:05 Rawalpindi (BA)	12:30 Athens, Madrid
18:00 Cairo	12:45 Kuwait (KAC)
18:30 Beirut (MEA)	13:05 London (BA)
20:05 Amsterdam	21:30 Riyadh, Doha (SDI)
20:30 Athens (SDI)	21:45 Doha, Busant
20:30 Paris	22:30 Abu Dhabi
21:00 London	24:00 Bahrain, Bangkok

BBC RADIO

13:30 Paperbacks	17:00 John Peel
13:45 Radio Theatre	17:40 Book Choice
14:30 Talkabout	17:45 Sports Round-up
15:00 Radio Newswel	18:00 News/Radio Newswel
15:15 Outlook	18:30 Brain of Britain 1977
16:00 World News	18:45 Three's a Crowd
16:15 Ballet in Britain	19:45 Beat It Black
16:45 The World Today	20:00 World News; 24 hours
17:00 News	20:50 A Jolly Good Show
17:05 John Peel	21:15 Paperbacks
17:40 Book Choice	21:30 Business Matters
17:45 Sports Round-up	21:45 Paperbacks
18:00 News/Radio Newswel	22:00 News: The World Today
18:30 Brain of Britain 1977	22:25 Financial News
18:45 Three's a Crowd	22:35 The Melody Makers
19:45 Beat It Black	22:45 Sports Round-up
20:00 World News; 24 hours	23:00 News: Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:00	Special English, News, Feature: Science in the News, News Summary, New Music USA
03:00	03:00, 04:00 and 18:30	06:00 GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary, VOA Magazine, American Science, Cultural, Letters.
06:30	06:30	Special English, News, Music USA (12:30), VOA World Report: News ... newsmakers' voices ... correspondents' reports ... background features ... media comments ... news analyses.
17:00	17:00	21:00
17:30	17:30	21:30

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 7811
Civil defence rescue	24241-4
Fire headquarters	2380-9
First aid, fire, police	18
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	30821-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Najdah, moving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	2111, 9777
Airport information (Arabic)	6328

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 4120
British Council	3614-6
French Cultural Centre	3706
Goethe Institute	4126
Soviet Cultural Centre	4628
Amman Municipal Library	4611

Finance talks with EEC end

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan and the European Economic Community (EEC) ended a series of meetings here Wednesday, during which they discussed EEC aid for development projects under a bilateral agreement concluded four months ago.

At the closing session, the two parties reviewed the work of the various committees set up to compile the necessary information on Jordanian development projects that may be financed by the EEC.

The Jordanian team to the talks was led by Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Najmeddine Dajani.

The bilateral commercial agreement, to be implemented at the end of July, will exempt Jordanian industrial products exported to EEC countries from all customs duties and reduce duties on agricultural products by 30 to 50 per cent.

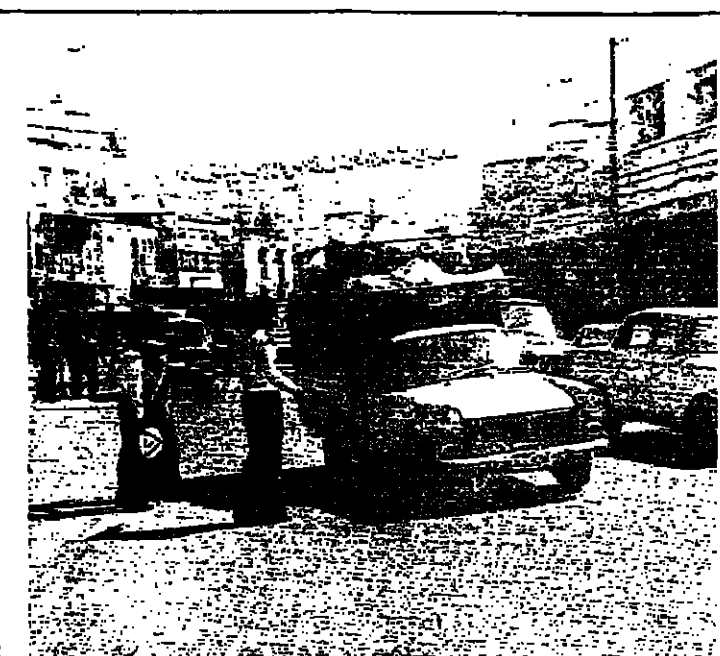
The technical and financial cooperation agreement, to be implemented at the end of September after ratification by both parties stipulates the creation of a joint cooperation council to study and discuss Jordanian projects to be financed by the EEC.

The necessary funds have been allotted in the EEC budget for the opening of an EEC office here to help increase cooperation between the EEC, Jordan and the Arab World.

Badran meets Bar Association officials

AMMAN (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Wednesday received the president and members of the Bar Association, Minister of Justice Ahmad Al Tarawneh also attended.

The president of the association presented a number of demands of interest to the association, including the need to draw up a law for the association in coordination with the Ministry of Justice, as well as to formulate a retirement fund regulation and a housing project for lawyers.



Scouts help out in controlling the mad rush of traffic in central Amman Tuesday as part of activities organized for Traffic Day. Interior Minister Suleiman Arar presided over the main ceremony of the day at the Royal Automobile Club, where he stressed the importance of cutting the number of road accidents in the Kingdom. (JNA photo).

ALO head arrives

AMMAN (Agencies). — Dr. Al Tayeb Al Khudairi, Director General of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO), arrived here yesterday from Damascus on a short visit to discuss relations between Jordan and the ALO.

His talks will also cover the technical cooperation agreement concluded between the ALO and Jordan two years ago.

Dr. Al Khudairi stated. He said he is expected to sign an agreement for cooperation between the ALO and the U.N. Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), currently based in Amman.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates, in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	567.0	573.0
U.S. dollar	329.0	331.0
German mark	139.7	140.1
French franc	66.6	66.9
Swiss franc	130.6	131.0
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.2	37.4
Saudi riyal	93.4	93.6
Lebanese pound	108.7	109.1
Syrian pound	80.8	81.0
Iraqi dinar	947.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,148.0	1,152.0
Egyptian pound	460.0	465.0
Libyan dinar	760.0	770.0
UAE dirham	84.4	84.8

Without wanting to tease the adults, the children could easily have competed with them; in fact, 8-12 year-old boys and girls made a zoo using only fruit and vegetables. And everyone admired the orange cat, the artichoke owl, the cabbage mouse, the crocodile cucumber...

Floral show tests ability of both young and old

By Irene Ramadan

AMMAN (J.T.). — Say it with flowers... And you can be very elegant in creating ingenious bouquets, as was shown Wednesday at a flower show organized by the YWCA of Amman at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel for His Majesty King Hussein's silver jubilee. Her Majesty Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, Honorary President of the YWCA, delegated Princess Sarvath to open the exhibition, which will end today.

Because of the silver jubilee the fifth flower show is very special this year. Besides the usual participants, embassies and several airline companies joined in.

The 65 participants showed a great deal of imagination in their floral arrangements.

Below we print the names of the winners of the various categories:

Spring in the Jordan Valley
First Prize: Mrs. Abia Hani Kawar
Second Prize: Miss Siham Mun'im
Japanese Arrangement
First Prize: Mrs. Kamal Hamed
Second Prize: Miss Mona Sweiss
Silver Anniversary
First Prize: Mrs. Violetta Habihi
Second Prize: Miss Amal Seraf
Silver Treasure
First Prize: Mrs. Doris Ghandour
Second Prize: Mrs. Michel Suddarth
My Favourite Colour
First Prize: Mrs. Maryse Robertson

Second Prize: Mrs. Madeleine Ghabieh
Potted Plants Flowers
First Prize: Mrs. Odette Tallah
Second Prize: Mrs. Virginie Zakharis
Easter Arrangement
First Prize: Mrs. Lina Anabtani
Second Prize: Mrs. Violetta Habihi
Lunch In The Garden
First Prize: Mrs. Noha Gaith
Second Prize: Mrs. Jom Mann.

Euro-Arab committee arrives

AMMAN (JNA). — Members of the preparatory committee for a Euro-Arab parliamentary conference to be held in Luxembourg June 30, arrived here Wednesday on a one-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhoumi.

His Highness Prince Hassan later received the committee members at the Royal Hashemite Court. They discussed economic and political cooperation between Europe and the Arab World and the role of European parliamentarians in securing a Middle East peace settlement.

The Arab-European Parliamentary Preparatory Committee ended its work in Damascus Tuesday under the chairmanship of Mr. Talhoumi, who is also President of the Arab Parliamentary Union.

LEBANESE POLICE START TRAINING COURSE HERE

AMMAN (Agencies). — Some 150 Lebanese gendarmes yesterday began an eight-week police training course to help rebuild Lebanon's security forces.

The course, which is being held at Zarqa Police Training Centre, includes theoretical and practical studies in police duties.

In an opening speech, Director of Public Security Maj-Gen. Ghazi Arabiat emphasized that his department would do its utmost "to successfully train the participants so that they may ensure security and stability in their country."

He expressed Jordan's readiness to help "strengthen and develop Arab police organizations to enable them to combat crime."

Lebanon's armed forces disintegrated almost completely during 19 months of civil war.

Prince Hassan urges military, industrial coordination policy

AMMAN (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, Wednesday called for closer coordination between the Armed Forces and the public and private sectors for the drawing up of a production policy to boost and encourage local industries and make them capable of meeting military demand for supplies.

Prince Hassan presided over a meeting at the Armed Forces Ordinance Command during an inspection tour he made to a number of administrative and supply departments Wednesday.

The meeting discussed the administrative policy and processes of the Armed Forces. It was attended by acting Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Maj-Gen. Mohammad Idriss, his administrative assistant, the president of the Amman Chamber of Industry and officials of the Ministries of Industry and Commerce, and Finance.

Prince Hassan's tour included visits to the Armed Forces furniture warehouses, the technical stores and the headquarters of the ammunition supplies.

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Western leaders assemble this weekend for London economic summit conference

LONDON, May 4 (AFP). — Western leaders will this weekend in London hold their third economic summit meeting with President Carter making his full-scale international "debut", and with the European Economic Community (EEC) present as such for the first time.

Participants are: The United States, West Germany, Japan, Britain, France, Canada, Italy and the EEC.

Reports from the capitals concerned indicate that the summit will cover all the main problems afflicting the economies of the non-socialist world including inflation, unemployment, payments prob-

lems monetary uncertainties, protectionist pressures, energy resources and disparate recovery prospects.

Other matters reported likely to come up include Africa, East-West détente, nuclear proliferation and technology, the North-South Dialogue or Conference on International Economic Co-operation (CIEC), and the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN).

President Carter will be travelling abroad for the first time since his Jan. 20 inauguration. In Washington it was believed he would seek to convince his summit partners that his nuclear policies are reasonable.

U.S. officials have said that

the goal of the London parley, and the NATO meeting to follow, is to strengthen international co-operation and institutions.

For the first time, Mr. Carter will be meeting French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti.

From London, it is reported that the British government will pay emphasis on inflation and unemployment. British leaders are worried that the international business recovery is slower than hoped for, notably in West Germany and Japan.

They are expected to ask the Americans and Germans to maintain their expansion targets.

It is also said that Britain likes the idea of an international plan for a shorter working week and earlier retirement, as means to reducing jobless figures.

A reliable source said the formal communiqué to be issued next Sunday has already been virtually finalised.

In Bonn, it is reported that West Germany considers it has done what it can to help its

partners emerge from the crisis, and that it will resist pressure for a new West German recovery programme.

The west German delegation was expected to say that the jobless problem depends on continuing firm discipline in the realm of inflation, and that hasty action would be a disservice to the Western world.

It will also confirm that West Germany needs the complete nuclear energy cycle including processing plant, but would cooperate internationally in a revamped plan to prevent nuclear arms proliferation.

In Tokyo, informed sources believed Japan would pledge to double the percentage of its Gross National Product (GNP) devoted to official aid for developing nations in the coming five years.

Japan, the sources said, expected to be criticised for its trade surplus in the year ending last March which was \$11.184 million or twice the earlier government forecast.

In Ottawa, there is a tendency to see the third Western summit as a means of obtaining a consensus on the gap between rich and poor nations:

Reducing this imbalance is considered vital for the international economy's health.

Canadian officials feel that the North-South Dialogue will be of "no value" without prior industrial powers.

An informed source in Rome

admitted that Italy would carry little weight at the London summit because the present Italian political climate rules out any long-term objectives.

In Paris, the French approach to the London gathering was expected to become clear later today.

OAPEC meeting lays foundation for follow up conferences

CAIRO, May 4 (R). — Major Arab oil producing nations yesterday agreed to hold a conference to study possibilities of producing nuclear and solar energy.

The 10-member Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said at the end of a one-day meeting it would hold the conference on alternative energy resources in Abu Dhabi in two years time.

A statement issued after yesterday's OAPEC meeting said ministers agreed to meet again next December in Kuwait to follow up recommendations reached in Cairo.

The recommendations included continuation of studies on establishing an institute for training Arabs in petrochemical industries and studies on establishing a dry dock in the Mediterranean.

Conference sources said oil prices were not raised at the meeting, attended by eight oil ministers and two delegates.

The conference also discussed the basic outline of the organisation's next five-year programme and recommended a final draft be presented to the ministerial council later, the statement said.

The programme includes the establishment of investment companies within member states and a unified policy for oil refineries.

The conference was attended

by eight oil ministers and two delegates representing Algeria and the Libyan Jamahiriya (formerly Libya), whose ministers failed to show up. The Algerian minister, however, was due to arrive last night, a conference spokesman said.

The oil minister of the Libyan Jamahiriya did not show up apparently because of his country's feud with Egypt.

BRUSSELS, May 4 (R). — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Butros yesterday appealed to the European Common Market (EEC) for a further 100 million units of account (\$110 million) in credits to help reconstruct his civil war torn country.

Mr. Butros made the appeal at the signing of a trade and aid agreement between the

EEC and Lebanon under which Lebanon will receive 30 million u.s. (\$33 million) in loans and grants.

He told journalists after the signing he had received no reaction from the nine Common Market members on his request.

"But I have the feeling and hope that the EEC will not remain insensitive to our request," he said.

Mr. Butros said the civil war had cost the Lebanese public sector between \$2.5 and \$3 billion but the economic position was now stabilising.

On the Middle East situation in general, Mr. Butros said prospects for peace had improved since the inauguration of President Jimmy Carter in the United States earlier this year.

"It is the conviction of the U.S. president that he must use his influence to settle the Middle East conflict and bring a just solution to the Palestinian problem, the key problem," he said.

"It is my feeling that the chances for peace have increased under President Carter," he added.

The expected meeting in Geneva on May 9 between President Carter and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, whose army is playing a peace-keeping role in Lebanon, would "ease progress towards peace."

Mr. Butros said he was confident Beirut would regain its pre-war position as a major financial and business centre.

"I am convinced Beirut will regain its former place as a financial centre. It is irreplaceable as such," he said.

The agreement signed yesterday is similar to agreements signed between the EEC and Egypt, Jordan and Syria last year, giving easier access to community markets for Lebanese exports.

It is also aimed at promoting trade and encouraging private investment in Lebanon.

Mr. Butros said the Lebanese government was localising and diminishing risks to foreign investors.

He said guarantees offered to investors by the Lebanese government against normal commercial losses "constitutes sufficient appeasement for investors."

Venezuela's Perez visits Austria, then Algeria

VIENNA, May 4 (R). — President Carlos Andres Perez yesterday discussed ways of fighting international terrorism and his efforts to resolve a major price rift among oil producers for more than an hour with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

Government officials said President Perez, on a 22-hour state visit to Austria, briefed Dr. Kreisky on his talks so far with Arab leaders in six states belonging to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The president flies on to Algeria today, the next stop in a tour which has already taken him to Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates.

The president is trying to help find a solution to a two-tier OPEC pricing policy which resulted when 11 OPEC states raised their prices by an initial 10 per cent this year, while Saudi Arabia and the U.A.E. held their increases to five per cent.

The officials said President Perez's discussions with Dr. Kreisky also ranged over Austria's desire to step up sales to Venezuela and a European convention on combatting international terrorism.

Dr. Kreisky told reporters after his private talks with the president that the two men also discussed East-West détente, the Middle East where the Austrian chancellor is visiting from tomorrow -- and the Paris North-South dialogue between industrialised, developing and oil producing countries.

Voice of America may become an independent agency

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — A U.S. Senator yesterday proposed legislation to turn the Voice of America (VOA) radio station into an independent agency by severing its ties with the State Department's United States Information Agency (USIA).

Sen. Charles Percy said that "the interference of diplomats and bureaucrats has limited the voice's ability to tell the whole truth in a timely manner."

He gave several cases where he said VOA broadcasters had been hampered in presenting news. They included:

-- The USIA pressured the voice to minimise early news about the Watergate scandal.

-- The U.S. Embassy in Moscow refused to let VOA cover an interview with Soviet author Andrei Amalrik in 1969.

-- A former USIA director refused to allow news analyses on the death of Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung.

Bophutatswana makes appeal for foreign investment

BABELEG, South Africa, May 4 (AFP). — Chief Minister Lucas Mangope of Bophutatswana Homeland, which is due to become independent of South Africa next December, has appealed for foreign investments and ruled out any risk of nationalisation.

Chief Mangope was inaugurating a bicycle factory yesterday built by the French firm Peugeot at Babeleg, a Bophutatswana industrial area 100 kms. (60 miles) northeast of Johannesburg.

He said "I want to dispel any fears industrialists may have that my government has any aspirations to acquire direct participation in private undertakings or become involved in the policy-making processes or day-to-day running of these companies."

The new factory, which cost

approximately two million dollars (1.7 million rand) to build, was transferred from the suburbs of Johannesburg. It employs about 100 workers and produces around 25,000 bicycles a year.

African workers in Babeleg will be paid about a third less than Johannesburg rates. The new factory will pay between 50 and 150 rand (\$75 to \$225) a month.

The factory is located in Babeleg's industrial zone where 100 firms are already functioning.

Bophutatswana will be the second of South Africa's nine African homelands to receive independence. Transkei became independent in October last year.

Bophutatswana is made up of six fragments with no access to the coast.

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Saudi Arabia will contribute to IMF Witteveen facility

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — Saudi Arabia's Minister of Finance and National Economy, Sheikh Mohammed Ali Abul Khail, said yesterday Saudi Arabia will contribute to a new International Monetary Fund (IMF) borrowing mechanism -- the so-called "Witteveen facility".

But, the Saudi minister said he could not reveal the amount his country would pledge as this has not yet been decided.

The fund is designed to help countries with balance of payments problems due to such factors as increased oil prices and falling commodity prices. Named after IMF Director Johannes Witteveen, it is aimed mainly at developing countries.

Mr. Witteveen hopes the cost of the fund will be split evenly between the rich, industrialised nations and the oil-exporting

countries. Yesterday's announcement was the first indication that Saudi Arabia would participate.

Sheikh Mohammed told a press conference here that it will take a few weeks before a decision is made on the size of the amount Saudi Arabia will pledge to the new fund.

A decision to establish the "Witteveen facility" was made last week by the IMF's Interim Committee.

Mr. Witteveen has said he hopes the fund will eventually total between eight and 15 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDR). There has been speculation among financial circles here that Saudi Arabia will contribute four billion of those SDR.

Sheikh Mohammed is in Washington for a meeting of the U.S.-Saudi joint Commission on Economic Cooperation.

Schlesinger says energy plan will not hurt U.S. economy or personal incomes

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — White House Energy Adviser James Schlesinger said yesterday that President Carter's drive to curb fuel wastage would not hurt the U.S. economy or personal incomes.

But Mr. Schlesinger told a Senate energy committee that, unless the country moves toward greater fuel conservation, "we're going to have a disaster."

His testimony, the first since President Carter announced his energy programme to Congress last month, stressed that Americans would not have to suffer a cut in their standard of living due to proposed taxes and various "disincentives" to prevent wastage of oil and gas.

Congressional leaders have indicated that most parts of Mr. Carter's energy package stand a good chance of being enacted. But the controversial proposal for a standby petrol tax, which would go into force if consumption rose above government-set targets by more

than one per cent, has come under criticism.

To support his argument, Mr. Schlesinger said the administration planned to rebate in full to taxpayers an estimated \$15 billion expected to be derived from a so-called well-head equalisation tax designed to bring U.S. oil prices more in line with world prices.

Those rebates, together with rising incomes, would more than offset the energy-related price increases brought on by the administration's programme, he said.

One Democratic member, who said he supported Mr. Carter's plan in general, criticised the rebate approach as deceptive and "tortured and convoluted."

But Mr. Schlesinger insisted that Americans would not be hurt economically if they avoided buying big, gas-guzzling cars, which were earmarked for heavier taxation in the energy package, and reduced fuel waste in other ways such as by insulating their homes.

Carter supports legislation barring U.S. cooperation with Arab trade boycott

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — President Carter yesterday announced his support for legislation aimed at barring cooperation by U.S. firms with the Arab trade boycott of Israel.

He said legislation approved by the Senate Banking Committee was a reasonable balance between the need for stringent anti-boycott controls and the need to allow business relations with countries conducting boycotts.

The language of the legislation was agreed by several American-Jewish organisations and business representatives following approval by the House of Representatives of a weaker anti-boycott bill.

The legislation supported by the president would impose the

following restrictions:

-- Prohibit all forms of religious or ethnic discrimination arising out of a foreign boycott;

-- Prohibit U.S. firms from refusing to do business with a boycotted country as a condition of doing business in another country;

-- Prohibit U.S. firms from acting as enforcers of a foreign boycott; and

-- Prohibit them from responding to requests for boycott-related information.

The president said the agreement worked out by the Jewish organisations and business representatives recognised that other governments, like the United States, could impose their own laws within their own countries.

Experts recommend that organisations focus on rural development

GENEVA, May 4 (R). — The average farm family in developing countries may be worse off now than it was 10 years ago, United Nations agricultural experts said here yesterday.

The experts from three U.N. specialised agencies said that although farm families constitute one third of the world's population, land labourers fall behind other workers in development because governments often give greater priority to boosting industry.

The experts -- from the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation -- recommended that their organisations focus efforts more intensively on rural development to ensure that the rural poor receive basic education and training.

The experts said that small farmers were not achieving their full potential because training and agricultural research results were not reaching the people on the land.

They also noted that primary education in rural areas was too often geared to urban interests.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* UNITED NATIONS, May 4 (R). — A resolution introduced in the U.N. Commission on Transnational Corporations yesterday called for a halt to investments in Southern Africa. The 19-nation draft was introduced by Ambassador Leslie O. Harriman of Nigeria, who is also Chairman of the U.N. Committee against Apartheid. It strongly condemned the actions of companies which continued to collaborate with the "racist regimes" in contravention of U.N. resolutions.

* NUREMBERG, May 4 (AFP). — West German unemployment fell last month by 44,900 to 1,039,400 solely due to seasonal factors. It was officially announced here today. Jobs vacant increased by 2,300 to 246,400.

* ATHENS, May 4 (AFP). — Greek airports are likely to be at a standstill Friday and Saturday when ground staff go on strike over pay rates for night work and public holidays. The strike will involve air traffic controllers, airport police, telecommunication staff and information clerks.

* MOSCOW, May 4 (AFP). — The resumption of Soviet-Japanese fishing negotiations today coincides with sharp Soviet press criticism of high political circles. After two interruptions of the talks since the start of March over the territorial question of the Kuril Islands Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Zenko Uzuaki arrived here yesterday for the third round of discussions.

* KUWAIT, May 4 (R). — A senior Kuwaiti official said here that an Arab-Latin American bank with a capital of \$100 million would function shortly. The Arab shares would be divided equally between Kuwait and the Libyan Arab Bank. The bank's headquarters would be in a South American state and would help in bringing closer economic relations between the Arab World and South America.

* BRUSSELS, May 4 (AFP). — Foreign ministers of the European Economic Community remained divided today over the terms for the participation of EEC Commission President Roy Jenkins in the seven-nation London Economic Summit due to start on Saturday. Informed sources said Britain, host of the summit and acting EEC council chairman, would like Mr. Jenkins to attend only next Saturday's meetings of the seven heads of state and government.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed generally higher in thin trading. Sentiment was aided by a possible further minimum lending rate cut this week and the higher U.K. reserves, dealers said.

Government stocks gained around 1/2 to 5/8 point in longs with shorts occasionally fractionally harder, with small buying interest noted. Industrials gained up to 15p in demand and shortage of stock. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 8.8 at 436.8.

Oils and banks were also firm. B.P. and Shell were both around 16p higher while major banks put on 5p to 10p.

Some mining shares finished above the days lows.

Australians continued firm.

Dunlop closed 3p higher after initial easiness on news of its proposed rights issue, while GKN firmed 14p following its annual report, dealers said.

Sainsbury gained 15p after full year results and P. and O. added 6p after figures. In leaders, gains of 10p to 15p were scored by ICI, Glaxo, Beecham and Unilever while gains of 5p to 9p were seen in Courtauld, Bowater, Hawker, Tubes, A.P. Cement and Metal Box.

Price of gold closed in London Wednesday at \$148.10/oz.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Consider what your attitudes and points of view actually are and develop them so they can be of utmost use to you in the days ahead. Make arrangements for a trip you would like to take that would expand your mental horizons.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Making new contacts is wise, especially with those of dissimilar experience to yours. Your inside is good, so make the most of it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study where you stand financially and gain the advice of experts that could lead to more monetary success. Be wary of strangers.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Know what your partners expect of you and try to please them, have more mutual success. Be careful of one who would relieve you of some of your assets.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Talk over with co-workers how to coordinate your efforts more effectively, and make any needed changes. Plan some time for rest.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Organize your efforts efficiently and gain the cooperation of co-workers. The key is to follow through. Take care of health-related matters.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find ways to make home more charming and comfortable. Give a new venture more thought before you enter into it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Rely on the opinion of an expert. Take no chances with reputation and be careful of your money. A short trip is in the picture.

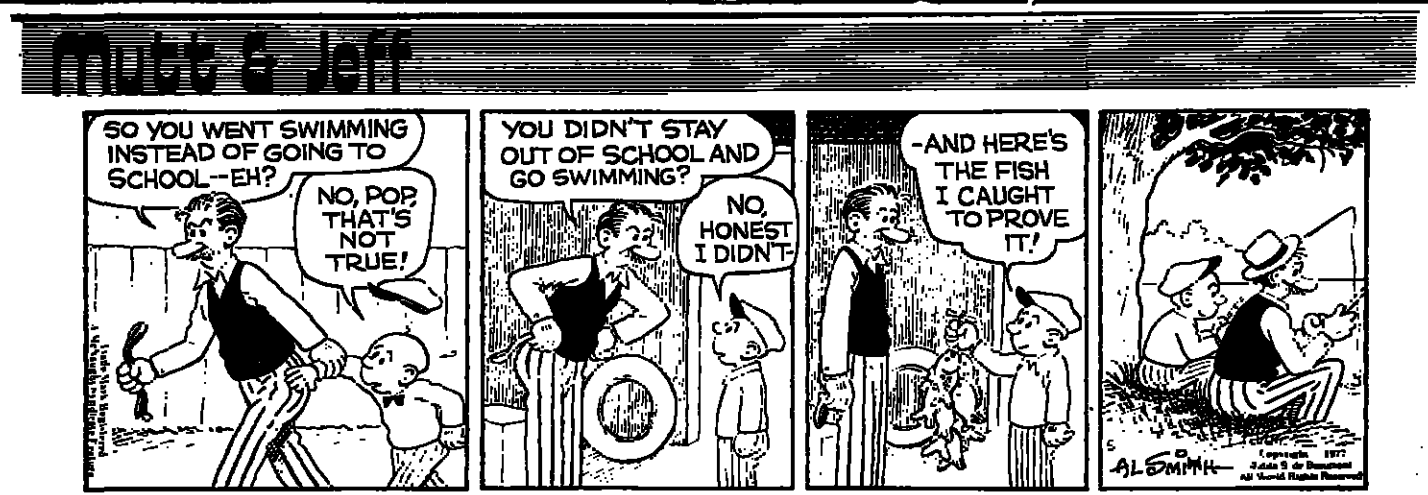
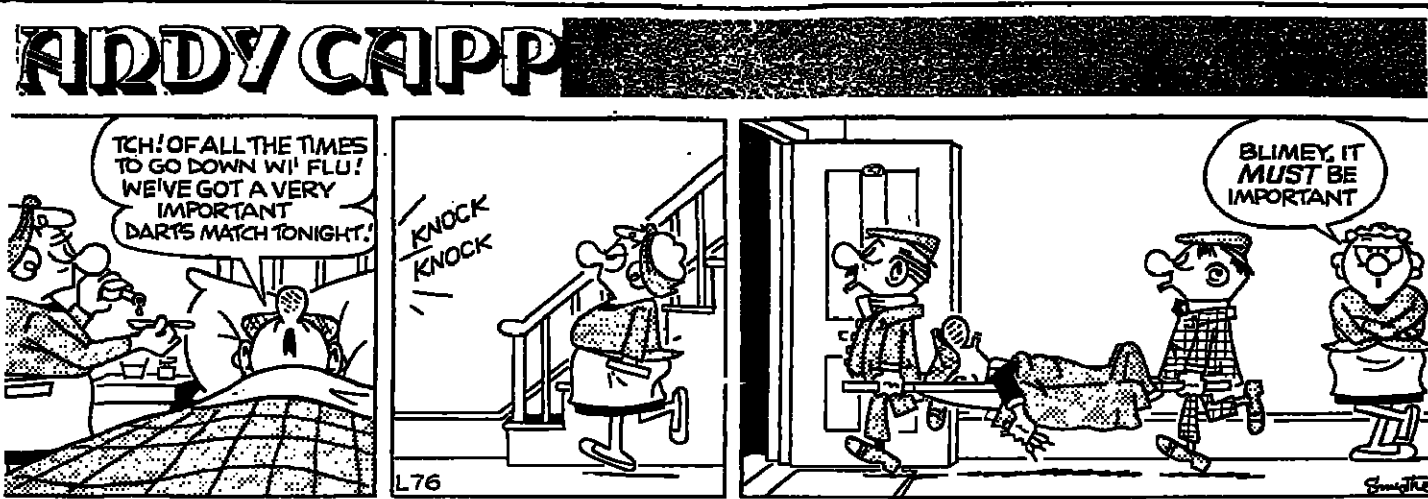
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get those ideas working that will help you to have a greater income in the future. Avoid one who can be detrimental to your best interests.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are warm and friendly and communicate with others very well at this time. Attend as many social affairs as possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan activities wisely so that you accomplish the maximum and gain aims easily, wisely. You see new faces and make new friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Doing something thoughtful for your best friends shows that you are appreciative and loyal. Give a party and repay social debts.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Show you are a concerned citizen and have more prestige within your community. Find the right gadgets that will make work more efficient.



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

ASK OMAR

Q.—The following hand cropped up in a recent game. Partner opened the bidding with one club and I held:

♠xxxx ♣Q10x ♦Kxx ♣Axx

What is my correct response?—L.C. Thompson, New York, N.Y.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)

A.—You have an awkward hand. I do not believe in responding one no trump on a hand that contains a four-card major. However, to respond in an anemic spade suit is equally abhorrent. If the contract is to be in spades, I would rather my partner introduced the suit, so that the strong hand can be the declarer rather than the dummy. Defense is much easier if the opponents can see the stronger hand. The way out of this dilemma is to tell a little white lie. I would mix a low heart in with my diamonds and respond one diamond. If partner now rebids one spade, I would be delighted to raise to two.

I am not suggesting that you make a habit of responding in a three-card suit. However, experience shows that there are some situations where judgment requires that you depart from normal practice. Consider this hand:

♠AKx ♣xxx ♦xxxxx ♣xxx

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. In theory, you should respond one no trump. But if no trump is the right spot, you surely don't want to be the declarer. You have no tenace you want led up to, and partner's holdings will be under attack from the opening gun. I would elect to respond one spade. I know I "owe" my partner another spade, but it certainly tells him where my strengths lie.

Q.—In a recent duplicate, I picked up the following hand, sitting South: ♠10xxx ♣AKx ♦Kxxx ♣Kx.

The bidding proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What should my next bid be? —M.M., Dallas, Texas

A.—This hand fits with the theme of the previous question. I would highlight where my strength lies by bidding three hearts. I would not bid three no trump for that would suggest to

partner that I raised him with only three trumps. A raise to four spades should also be ruled out lest partner play me for stronger spades and weaker hearts.

Q.—With plenty of entries to either hand, what is the best play to make three tricks from this combination?

Dummy

Q J 4

Declarer

A 9 8 7

—R.R. Jackson, Boston, Mass.

A.—The correct line for three

tricks is to lead toward the jack. If this wins, return to your hand and lead low toward the queen.

Should the jack lose to the

king, your best chance is to cash the queen and ace. That will produce three tricks any time the ten is doubleton or the suit breaks 3-3.

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CHUGO

LISEA

ABNOME

JALOCE

Ask your grandpa. He knows everything.

Wise in one's age.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print surprise answer here: " " " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DECAY ENACT ALMOST HARROW

Answer: What fat cats are supposed to have plenty of—"SCRATCH"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Female last mentioned

4. Trum

8. Interval

11. Externate

13. Person

14. Morning, abbr.

15. Follower, suffix

16. Of the iris

18. Influence

20. Cult

21. Badge

22. Signboard

25. Bewitch

26. Skulk

27. Morndin dye

28. Gold, in Heraldry

29. Hurler

30. Chalice

31. Prizes

33. Campbell

34. Sob

35. Specie

36. Ruffle

38. Flounder

39. Toward

41. Scottish name

42. Auditor

45. Color

46. Frost

47. Turkish chamber

COD SHUN HOG
ULU HOPE EWE
PARLEY PSALM
SOD STAR
POUT SAUNTER
ODE SPUNK MIE
EWE SLICE BID
PRELATE MITE
LAVE NIL
BUDGE PALLID
AVE ROAM ORE
GAR YORE WIN

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

DOWN

4. Boston one

5. Have Scottish

6. That thing

7. Tag price

charged for

goods

8. Running

9. Mother of Irish

10. Ball-point

12. Deceiver

17. Gradation

19. Grow

20. Chatters' slang

21. Tire casing

22. Decline in prices

23. Grieved

24. Spirit

26. Railroad tie

29. Appeal to be

30. Fighter

32. Brail

33. Desert in Asia

35. Approached

36. Spanish hero

37. Skate

38. Barner

40. --- pro nobis

43. Football team

44. Japanese drama

Part time 30 min

AP News Service

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TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

BRADY BUNCH:

LOST LOCKET, FOUND LOCKET

The Brady family receive gift and wonder for whom it was sent.

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN:

DANNY'S INFERNO.

Steve tries to prevent the destruction of bridge by gang who threaten to blow it if they are not given formula for nuclear fuel.

OUT AND ABOUT

ELITE RESTAURANT

Fires Wings Hotel, Jabel Al Luweibdeh, Tel. 22163/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabel Amman, First Circle, Tel. 21083. Jabel Al Luweibdeh, Hawaz Circle, Tel. 30646. Jabel Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema, Tel. 21781. Also to Zarqa and Irbid.

Captain's Cabin

The fashionable restaurant for you. Getaways Bank Street, Tel. 2197. AQABA. Open for lunch & dinner. Specialty Italian cuisine. Live music and dancing.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabel Amman, near the Abliyah School or CMS. Tel. 38969. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabel Amman. Tel. 28592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38889. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

Clashes reported as most Irish workers ignore strike

BELFAST, May 4 (R). — Nearly two-thirds of Northern Ireland's workforce today defied a general strike order by Protestant militants and some picket lines to reach their jobs.

A burst of early morning violence when pro-strike demonstrators clashed with police failed to dampen opposition to the stoppage.

The strike leaders are demanding that the British government crack down on Republican guerrillas and return the

provinces to a Protestant-dominated government.

In east Belfast, where a mob of 400 strike supporters fought a pitched battle with police this morning, officials of the Protestant Para-Military organisation and strikeleaders met later to assess reaction to the two-day-old strike.

But they refused to comment on reports that para-military operations were to be stepped up to force the province's 1.5 million people to stay at home.

56% of French voters favour leftist alliance

PARIS, May 4 (AFP). — Fifty-six per cent of French voters would choose the leftwing alliance if a general election were held in France this week, according to an opinion poll published by the conservative newspaper L'Aurore.

A majority also supported the idea of proportional representation for parliamentary elections as against the present two-stage ballot system.

The results of the poll pointed to an easy victory in the hypothetical ballot for the alliance of Socialists, Communists and leftwing radicals while the governing centre-right coalition could expect to poll only 44 per cent of the votes.

L'Aurore findings put the leftwing alliance 3 per cent ahead of a similar poll it carried out in February.

Thirty-two per cent of the people who said they would vote for a leftist candidate admitted they would do so out of dissatisfaction with the policies of the present government and not because they were leftwing supporters.

Fifty-two per cent of the sample favoured holding the legislative elections next year as scheduled, while 32 per cent believed they should be brought forward.



VIETNAMESE TALKS — The United States and Vietnam opened talks in Paris, Tuesday, on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. From left to right: American delegation: Mr. Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for Southeast Asian Affairs; Mr. James Rosenthal, Country Director for Indochina in the State Department. Vietnamese delegation: Mr. Do Thanh, First Secretary in the Vietnamese Embassy in Paris; Mr. Bui Xuan Ninh, Assistant Secretary Foreign Minister; Mr. Trang Quang Co, head of the North American Department in the Foreign Ministry; and Mr. Phan Kien, Deputy Foreign Minister. (AP wirephoto).

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger authorised the CIA to eavesdrop on Micronesian officials during delicate negotiations on the future of the islands, the Senate Intelligence Committee reported yesterday. On Dr. Kissinger's instructions, from early 1975 until December 1976 the CIA ran a clandestine intelligence operation which included the recruitment of Micronesian residents and at least one official of the Micronesian government who was involved in the negotiations over the islands' status with the United States.

* WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — Twelve Hanafi Muslims who held more than 130 people hostage here in March were charged yesterday with murder, kidnapping and assault with intent to kill. Hanafi leader Hammas Abdul Khaalis and 11 other black men were charged with armed kidnapping, hours after they freed their hostages on March 11. But that charge was superseded by yesterday's grand jury indictment. Every member of the sectarian group was charged with murder in the fatal shooting of young black radio reporter Maurice Williams at Washington's City Hall, although only two of them were in the building at the time.

* Geneva, May 4 (R). — Ugandan Health Minister Henry Kyemba today denied a report from Nairobi that he would not return to Uganda because he had been told his life was in danger there. Mr. Kyemba, heading his country's delegation to the Annual Assembly here of the World Health Organisation (WHO), called a press conference after hearing of the French radio report. It said that he has asked for refuge in Kenya last week because a friend in Uganda told him his life was in danger there.

* UNITED NATIONS, May 4 (R). — Five Japanese industrial organisations have contributed \$30,000 to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees, the agency said yesterday. They are the Federation of Economic Organisations, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Federation of Employers' Associations, Committee for Economic Development, and the Industry Club of Japan.

* WASHINGTON, May 4 (AFP). — The Lincoln Continental convertible car in which President John Kennedy was assassinated has been withdrawn from the White House fleet of cars and returned to the Ford Motor Company, it was announced here. After the assassination the car was fitted with a new engine, re-sprayed and equipped with a bullet-proof plexiglass roof. The Ford Company is planning to place the car in its museum once the late President's two children Caroline, 19, and John, 16, have become of age.

Australian politicians deny taking CIA funds

CANBERRA, May 4 (AFP). — Leaders of the Australian coalition government denied today that their parties had accepted funds from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr. Victor Machetti, a former senior officer of the CIA, has alleged that both the Liberal Party and the National Country Party received CIA money for at least 10 years. Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser of the Liberal Party and the National Country Party's acting leader Ian Sinclair both replied that their parties would never accept funds from overseas organisations. In the ensuing debate, Labour leader Gough Whitlam said there was increasing evidence that the U.S. and Soviet intelligence services were operating in Australia.

In the most serious incident of the strike so far a placard-waving mob outside the headquarters of the Ulster Defence Association (UDA) the biggest Protestant, para-military group, hurled broken bottles, bricks and stones at steel-helmeted riot police trying to disperse them and dismantle barricades built across the road.

The mob, which swelled to over 400, smashed vehicles and broke bus windows turning the street into a sea of broken glass before police, backed by armed troops, managed to restore order after three skirmishes. Several minor injuries were reported.

Buses came to a standstill in the capital for several hours after the Bus Drivers Union said 17 of its members had been injured by demonstrators.

The United Unionist Action Council, which is leading the strike, wants the British government to use its 15,000 troops in the province to crush Republican guerrillas.

Norway declares sea safe from pollution after Bravo blow-out

OSLO, May 4 (R). — Norway today stood down its oil-fighting forces after big waves broke up the great slick spewed out by the Bravo north sea oil rig last week.

Its emergency command for tackling the mishap said the oil had fragmented and almost dissolved itself. It was no longer possible to take up oil with mechanical means.

Emergency operations began soon after the blow-out on the rig on April 22. After eight days the slick was estimated to cover 2,850 square kms, and at one time threatened a pollution disaster in Western Europe. The blowout was capped last Saturday.

Big waves whipped by north-east winds then rapidly reduced the size of the slick, and the emergency command today described the possibility of any significant quantity of oil reaching shore as remote.

Any oil that did land would appear in small scattered lumps that would cause little inconvenience, the command said. Phillips Petroleum Company, operators of the rig, will maintain an oil spillage collection unit in the area and, with the Norwegian air force, will keep watch over the remaining slick.

A Norwegian scientist from the Defence Research Institute today said further blow-outs were virtually certain. Mr. Jan Erik Nilsson said

there was a 90 per cent chance of one or several blowouts in the Norwegian and British sectors of the North Sea by 1985. In the Norwegian sector alone there was a 60 per cent chance of a blowout by 1985, he said.

Mr. Jansen has submitted a report on pollution risks in the North Sea based on oil activities. The report will serve as a basis for actions by Norway's armed forces in case of major pollution disasters along the coast.

U.S. team locked outside Paris Vietnamese Embassy

PARIS, May 4 (AFP). — The United States-Vietnamese talks on normalising diplomatic and economic relations ended their second session here today after four hours.

The United States delegation head Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for Southeast Asian Affairs, said "some progress has been made."

Both delegations were scheduled to give press conferences later today.

The delegations started their second day's talks this morning with a strange and inexplicable hitch when the U.S. team was locked outside the

Vietnamese Embassy in pouring rain.

The two American diplomatic cars pulled up outside the Vietnamese pagoda-type Embassy to discover the heavy iron grille gates were locked. There was no Vietnamese officials in sight.

A confused Mr. Holbrooke, in a light summer suit but no overcoat, and his aides remained puzzled in front of the gate, clearly wondering what was happening.

Some minutes later, a small car drove up with three Vietnamese, who went in a side entrance and unlocked the gate for the Americans.

"Industrialised nations' usage of technology in health is a waste, ineffective," WHO says

GENEVA, May 4 (R). — Director General Halfdan Mahler of the World Health Organisation (WHO) yesterday accused industrialised nations of indiscriminate waste in their medical services and said some expensive new medical technology had only a marginal effect on health.

Dr. Mahler, Dane, told the 150-member WHO Annual Assembly here that developed nations may soon find themselves having to adopt the solutions of poorer countries to health problems.

Presenting his report on the work of the United Nations specialised agency, Dr. Mahler said countries needed "to limit the extraordinary human and economic waste that arises from the blind application of technology for its own sake."

"We just cannot afford to continue the indiscriminate use of methods, machines and medicines, so many of which have never undergone the critical evaluation of a controlled trial," he said.

Dr. Mahler said WHO was concentrating on basic health programmes rather than on promoting "technological neo-colonialism in health" through imports of sophisticated methods and machines to treat disease.

He said agency experts had reported that only 150 drugs were needed to treat most all ordinary illnesses, yet 3,000 drugs were available, most of them patented and produced in industrialised countries.

He said the organisation's six-year programme approved last year focused on extending health care to countries with the least resources and on linking these services with social and economic development.

its three-week meeting on Monday, elected Tonga Health Minister Dr. Sione Tapa as its president.

Vice presidents elected were Dr. Riad I. Hussein of Iraq, Dr. E. Schultheisz of Hungary, Mr. H. K. M. Kyemba of Uganda, Dr. C.L. Ortega of Argentina and Mrs. S. Obeyesekere of Sri Lanka.

Thor Heyerdahl plans another ocean voyage

LONDON, May 4 (R). — Mr. Thor Heyerdahl, the Norwegian scientist and explorer, plans to challenge the Indian Ocean in a papyrus boat, it was announced here yesterday.

The British Broadcasting Corporation, one of the sponsors of the voyage, said Mr. Heyerdahl would set out from the Gulf in early November into the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean with an international crew of 14 in a reed vessel called the Tigris.

Mr. Heyerdahl hopes to discover how men, 5,000 years ago, were able to navigate large reed ships to given destinations in the Gulf and to earliest centres of prehistoric civilisation on both sides of the Indian Ocean.

The explorer crossed the Pacific in 1947 on an Inca-type raft called the Kon-Tiki and the Atlantic in 1970 on an Egyptian-type craft called Ra II.

The Kon-Tiki voyage was to demonstrate that pre-Incas from Peru could have founded the earliest culture in Polynesia. The Ra II was built to prove that reed ships of ancient Egyptian and North African civilisations could have brought cultural influences to Mexico and Peru between 3000 and 1200 B.C.

The Tigris, named after the Iraqi river where it will be built, will follow early Sumerian designs.

The vessel will follow the Shatt Al Arab, the estuary of the rivers Euphrates and Tigris, for initial testing.

The destination of the boat will be decided after studying the prevailing winds and currents. "We will sail the boat as long as it stays afloat and as far as it goes, even if it takes a year," said Mr. Heyerdahl.

The voyage is not meant to prove any specific migratory theory but is expected to answer questions as to how Sumerian reed ships, leaving Mesopotamia (ancient Iraq) with nothing but oars and a square sail hoisted on a primitive mast, could navigate and stay afloat on long sea voyages.

Algeria "seeks explanation" of de Guiringaud statement

ALGIERS, May 4 (Agencies) — French Ambassador Guy de Comminges de Marsilly was summoned to the Algerian Foreign Ministry last night "to explain a statement by Mr. Louis de Guiringaud," the French Foreign Minister.

Mr. de Guiringaud was quoted in Paris yesterday as saying that aggression against the Mauritanian town of Zouerate on Sunday in which two French people were killed and six others apparently kidnapped was "carried out by forces coming from outside the country."

The French minister added: "We know full well where they came from."

Algerian officials said Mr. de Marsilly was seen at the Foreign Ministry by the Director of

French Affairs, Rachid Haddad, at the request of Foreign Minister Abdel Aziz Boufelfila.

Without actually mentioning Algeria in his statement yesterday, Mr. de Guiringaud said the Polisario front which carried out the Zouerate raid had bases in the country in question.

Algeria has backed the Polisario front which has been fighting a guerrilla war against Morocco and Mauritania since the two countries partitioned the Western Sahara when Spain decolonised last year.

Meanwhile officials in Nouakchott, the Mauritanian capital, said last night that the six missing French people were not harmed in the attack and were apparently still being held by the Polisario peace.

They said the force had moved into the far northeastern

corner of Mauritania near Tindouf, just across the border in Algeria.

The officials said Mauritanian forces followed the fleeing Polisario units on Monday and that several engagements took place with motorised units guarding the rear.

Informed sources in Rabat, the Moroccan capital, said last night that the Polisario force -- numbering about 400 well armed men -- was surrounded in north Mauritania by 1,500 government troops.

Meanwhile, a communique issued yesterday in Algiers said that Polisario front guerrillas killed 65 Mauritanian soldiers and 65 Mauritanian soldiers and 70 in last Sunday's raid on the Mauritanian town of Zouerate.

It made no mention of the French couple killed in the raid

or of the six missing people.

The communique said the front seized equipment and destroyed two planes, the air base terminal, a barracks, a railway station, a power station and 38 vehicles, for the loss of one dead and three wounded.

Yesterday Mauritanian President Moktar Ould Daddah accused Algeria, in an interview published in Paris, of arming and training Polisario guerrillas.

Interviewed by the Paris daily Le Monde, President Ould Daddah said there was no such thing as the Polisario.

"The Polisario does not exist," he said. "We know only mercenaries recruited, trained and armed by Algeria, which, using its territory as an operations base and sanctuary, launches them in attacks against Mauritania."

West German police intensifies search for prosecutor's killer

STUTTGART, West Germany, May 4 (R). — Police were put on full alert in three West German states after the reported sighting today of a man wanted over the killing of Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback.

The wanted man, Mr. Christian Klar, was reported to have been seen in Mannheim after a running gun battle near the Swiss border yesterday in which two other suspected guerrillas were wounded and arrested.

Federal Prosecutor Erwin Fischer said an intensive hunt had been launched for Mr. Klar.

Mr. Guenther Sonnenberg, accused of being an accomplice in the Buback assassination, was arrested yesterday in

gen, near the Swiss border, together with a Mrs. Verena Becker after a chase by car and foot.

Mr. Sonnenberg, who was shot in the head, was reported critically ill today. Mrs. Becker was shot in the leg but not seriously wounded. A policeman shot in the chest is recovering in hospital.

Arrest warrants were issued for Mr. Klar, Mr. Sonnenberg and Mr. Knut Folkerts shortly after Mr. Buback, his driver and body guard were killed in an attack by two men on a motorcycle in Karlsruhe on April 7.

Police today issued the top priority "alarm alert" in the

States of Hesse, Rhineland Palatinate and Baden-Wuerttemberg in their search for Mr. Klar, who was said to be accompanied by at least one other person.

The head of the Federal Criminal Office's anti-terrorist department, Mr. Gerhard Boeden, said in a radio interview that police ballistics experts had established beyond doubt that a submachine gun carried by Mr. Sonnenberg and Mrs. Becker was the weapon used in the Buback killing.

He said they had a number of weapons, identity papers and other documents with them, and were planning to cross the border illegally.

Developing nations fight wars with arms from industrialised countries

STOCKHOLM, May 4 (R). — Most of the 140 undeclared wars fought since 1945 involved developing nations and could not have taken place without weapons made in the industrialised world -- mainly the United States and the Soviet Union -- a leading British arms expert said here yesterday.

Dr. Frank Barnaby, a nuclear physicist who has been the director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) since 1971, said in an interview that the current "war" in Zaire's southern Shaba Province was a typical example of armed conflict between citizens of developing countries using weapons from the industrialised world.

Dr. Barnaby said that during the two decades ending in 1976, the U.S. and Soviet Union accounted for about 65 per cent of the international arms trade. Britain and France each accounted for 10 per cent and the rest was divided among such nations as Czechoslovakia, Canada, Italy, West Germany and China.

But in 1976, the U.S. share in the world sale of heavy weapons jumped to 50 per cent, mainly due to the military buildup in Iran and continued armament in Israel, South Korea and Saudi Arabia.

The Soviet Union's share dropped to 20 per cent in 1976 with France and Britain maintaining 10 per cent each, he said.

Dr. Barnaby said the count of 140 wars referred to organised fighting over a significant part of a country in which one side of the fighting was done by regular government forces, such as Vietnam, Angola and Eritrean secessionists in Ethiopia. He said the figure did not include guerrilla actions in such countries as Argentina and Brazil.

Carter wants special official appointed with authority to probe government staff ethics

WASHINGTON, May 4 (R). — President Carter yesterday announced his support for legislation to appoint a special prosecutor with broad authority to probe any alleged misconduct by the president, vice president, cabinet and White House staff.

He also sent Congress a bill to set up a special government ethics office to protect the honesty and integrity of the government and to monitor new safeguards against conflicts of interests and abuses of public trust by officials.

His plans were announced the day before former President Richard Nixon was to appear in the first of a series of taped television interviews to give his explanation of the Watergate scandal that forced him out of office in 1974.

Mr. Carter told Congress that an "ethics in government" act would call for senior government officials to disclose their finances, business and professional interests and any gifts and entertainment received while in office.

The special prosecutor should enjoy the same authority and independence as the present Watergate prosecutor and only be removed for extraordinary impropriety or incapacity, he said.

This would prevent a president firing the special prosecutor for arbitrary reasons, as happened in the so-called "Saturday night massacre" in 1973 when President Nixon dismissed then Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox for demanding release of incriminating White House tapes.

Mr. Carter said independence for a new special prosecutor would eliminate all appearance of high-level interference in sensitive investigations and prosecutions.

"The American people must be assured that no one, regardless of position, is above the law," he declared.

Mr. Nixon resigned in August, 1974, after Congress moved to impeach him for alleged abuse of power in the Watergate cover-up and related scandals.



THE FIRST COUPLE -- U.S. First Lady Rosalynn Carter with President Carter during a jazz performance on the South Lawn of the White House, Monday. Mrs. Carter is recuperating from an operation last week in which a benign lump was removed from one of her breasts. (AP wirephoto).

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